

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Kyoichi SASAKI, et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/521,205  
Filed : January 12, 2005  
For : COMPONENT FOR  
CONNECTING OPTICAL  
FIBERS, OPTICAL FIBER  
CONNECTION STRUCTURE,  
AND OPTICAL FIBER  
CONNECTION METHOD  
Examiner : Hoang Q. Tran  
Group Art Unit : 2874

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 2, 2008**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 2, 2008, please reconsider the present application in light of the following amendments and comments.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.